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CLARKBRODY

#4051 P.004

Serial No.: 10/706,892

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

(currently amended) In a trailer having an un-powered axle assembly supporting rear 1.

wheels thereof, the axle assembly including brake assemblies for the wheels, the improvement

comprising a [[A]] cooling system for brakes in [[an]] the un-powered axle assembly, the cooling

system including [[comprising]]:

a) an air-oil cooler assembly;

b) at least one hydraulic pump, an output of the pump in communication with an inlet of

the air-oil cooler assembly, at least a portion of the oil exiting an outlet of the air-oil cooler

assembly adapted to cool the brakes of the un-powered axle assembly;

c) a hydraulic fan assembly adapted to circulate air past the air-oil cooler assembly, a fan

of the fan assembly being driven by oil exiting the outlet of the air-oil cooler assembly;

d) a reservoir for receiving oil from the hydraulic fan and the brakes and for further

recirculation to an inlet of the at least one hydraulic pump; and

e) a pump drive linked to a transmission of the un-powered axle assembly, output of the

transmission driving the at least one hydraulic pump.

(original) The system of claim 1, wherein the hydraulic fan assembly includes a control 2.

valve downstream of the air-oil assembly to receive a portion of the oil exiting an outlet of the

air-oil cooler assembly, the valve adapted to control the flow of oil to the hydraulic fan assembly

for fan operation.

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(original) The system of claim 1, wherein the pump drive is linked to the transmission via 3.

an electric clutch, the electric clutch controlling driving of the pump drive by the transmission

based on the direction of rotation of a shaft of the axle assembly.

(original) The system of claim 3, wherein the electric clutch receives a signal from back-4.

up lights of a trailer to disengage the transmission from the pump drive.

5. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the transmission operation is directly controlled

electronically for driving the pump.

(original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a temperature regulated bypass valve 6.

in communication with an outlet of the air-oil cooler assembly, the bypass valve controlling flow

of oil to the hydraulic fan assembly based on a sensed temperature of the oil.

7. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a divider downstream of

the air-oil cooler assembly, the divider directing oil to the brakes of the un-powered axle

assembly and the hydraulic fan assembly.

(original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a manifold collector adapted to 8.

receive oil from the brakes, hydraulic fan assembly for return to the reservoir.

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9. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein a pair of hydraulic piston pumps are

used, and the output of the pumps is split to a pair of brake cooling inlets on the un-powered axle

assembly.

10. (currently amended) A method of cooling brakes in an axle assembly comprising:

a) providing a trailer having an un-powered axle assembly with at least one hydraulic

pump and driving the at least one hydraulic pump using a rotation of the shaft of the un-powered

axle assembly;

b) directing oil exiting the at least one hydraulic pump to an air-oil cooler assembly to

reduce the temperature of the oil;

c) directing at least a portion of the oil exiting the air-oil cooler assembly to brakes of the

un-powered axle assembly, and directing another portion of the oil exiting the air cooler

assembly to a hydraulic fan assembly to drive a hydraulic fan thereof and circulate air across the

air-oil cooler assembly; and

d) accumulating the oil exiting the brakes and hydraulic fan assembly in a reservoir for

recirculation to the at least one hydraulic pump.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the pump is driven by a

transmission linked to the <u>un-powered</u> axle assembly.

(original) The method of claim 11, wherein the transmission is deactivated when the shaft

is to rotate in a direction opposite of the direction of rotation that drives the pump.

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13. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising sensing a temperature of the oil

being pumped, and directing the another portion of the oil exiting the air cooler assembly to the

hydraulic fan assembly to drive the hydraulic fan thereof to circulate air across the air-oil cooler

assembly when the temperature reaches a certain target temperature.

14. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the pump is directly linked to the

transmission, or is linked by an electrical or mechanical clutch.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The trailer of claim [[15]] 1, wherein the trailer is a lowboy trailer

having a front end hitch capable of connecting to a removable gooseneck hitch of a towing

vehicle.

17. (currently amended) A braking cooling assembly comprising an un-powered axle

assembly, a transmission for the un-powered axle assembly, and [[the]] a cooling system, the

cooling system further comprising:

a) an air-oil cooler assembly;

b) at least one hydraulic pump, an output of the pump in communication with an inlet of

the air-oil cooler assembly, at least a portion of the oil exiting an outlet of the air-oil cooler

assembly adapted to cool the brakes of the un-powered axle assembly;

c) a hydraulic fan assembly adapted to circulate air past the air-oil cooler assembly, a fan

of the fan assembly being driven by oil exiting the outlet of the air-oil cooler assembly;

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d) a reservoir for receiving oil from the hydraulic fan and the brakes and for further

recirculation to an inlet of the at least one hydraulic pump; and

e) a pump drive linked to a transmission of the un-powered axle assembly, output of the

transmission driving the at least one hydraulic pump [[of claim 1]].

18. (currently amended) The assembly of claim 1, [[further comprising a trailer,]] wherein at

least one un-powered axle assembly/transmission is mounted on a rear end of the trailer.

19. (currently amended) In a trailer having an un-powered [[an]] axle assembly, the un-

powered axle assembly having brakes that require cooling, the improvement comprising at least

one hydraulic pump that supplies cooling oil to the brakes and means for driving of the hydraulic

pump using rotation of a component of the un-powered axle assembly, and a heat exchanger

assembly adapted to receive heated oil from the brakes for cooling and recirculation back to the

brakes.